

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of January 19, 2007 is gratefully acknowledged.

Regarding the comments of the Examiner with respect to applicant's claim of priority based upon the PCT application, it is noted that the application data sheet does identify the PCT application and claims the appropriate relationship. Nothing more is needed.

The specification has been amended to make the corrections to pages 2 and 8 suggested by the Examiner.

Regarding the Examiner's objection to the drawings clarification is requested. It is not clear what the examiner means by "Figures 1-4 show(s) modified forms of construction in the same view." A reference to the drawings and to the brief description of the drawings are in accord with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.84. Apparently, there is a misunderstanding as to what "modified forms" means under 37 CFR 1.84(h)(5). Clarification is requested.

The rejection of claim 10 as indefinite under 35 USC 112 is noted. The examiner is correct in that claim 10 does include certain errors which were inadvertently made in filing the Preliminary Amendment. These errors have now been corrected and claim 10 is now believed to be definite and in full accord with the provisions of 35 USC 112.

Next the examiner rejects claims 10-19 as anticipated under 35 USC 102(e) by the Gillen publication. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding Gillen, it should be noted that it does not disclose a reprogrammable logic device L.D. It only discloses a normal field device composed of various hardware components. This is clear from paragraphs [0024] to [0028] of the publication. These hardware components are fixed. In contrast, the present invention discloses a reprogrammable logic device where even hardware components can be changed without any problem. The present invention allows for a maximum of flexibility due to the reprogrammable logic devices allowed for hardware component changes, please refer to page 7, line 17 ff. The hardware and software can be configured in any fashion so as to match particular demands of the application. For example, if the device was originally configured as a HART device and one wishes to have a PROFIBUS device, one can change the HART protocol chip into a PROFIBUS protocol chip. There is no

need to change the chip physically. With a reprogrammable logic device one can do it just by configuring the chip.

The Gillen publication provides a known disclosure for using a reprogrammable logic device in field devices. Reprogramming is not new. However it is not known in field devices, and the Gillen publication, which relates to field devices, does not provide such knowledge.

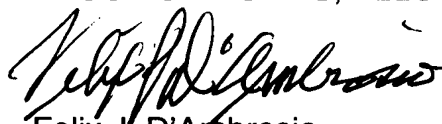
Claims 10-19, with claim 10 corrected as noted above, define the present invention to include a signal processing module and a processor module both of which are provided in the form of a reprogrammable logic device that is not taught in Gillen.

Accordingly, claims 10-19 cannot be anticipated by Gillen and are allowable over Gillen.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and clarification of the drawing objection provided at claims 10-19 indicated as allowable over the Gillen publication.

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Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



Felix J. D'Ambrosio
Attorney for Applicant

Registration Number 25,721

Customer Number *23364*
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

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